

## CERTAIN TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS OF OFFICERS OF THE NAVY.

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MAY 24, 1898.—Ordered to be printed.

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Mr. BOUTELLE, of Maine, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, submitted the following

### REPORT.

[To accompany S. R. 167.]

The Committee on Naval Affairs, having had under consideration the joint resolution (S. R. 167) ratifying and confirming certain temporary appointments of officers of the Navy, which is recommended by the Secretary of the Navy in a letter hereto appended, report the same to the House without amendment and recommend that it do pass.

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NAVY DEPARTMENT,  
*Washington, May 14, 1898.*

SIR: Referring to this Department's letter of the 5th instant, inclosing the draft of a joint resolution for the purpose of ratifying and confirming certain temporary appointments of acting officers of the Navy, made on and since the 21st ultimo, I have to state that after conference with Hon. Charles A. Boutelle, chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs of the House of Representatives, and at his instance, certain modifications of the draft referred to are suggested. The modifications embrace the omission of the words "acting" and "temporary acting appointments," and the reference to such appointments as made by the President instead of by the Secretary of the Navy, and are intended to conform to the provisions for these appointments as enacted in the act making appropriations for the naval service for the forthcoming fiscal year.

In making appointments prior to the passage of this act, and in anticipation thereof, as orally suggested by the committee, the Department conformed to the provision contained in the naval appropriation bill (H. R. 9378) when reported to the Senate, which, as you are aware, was afterwards changed by substituting "the President" for "the Secretary of the Navy" as the appointing power, and by striking out the word "acting" before the word "officers."

A draft of the proposed resolution in the form suggested is herewith transmitted, with the recommendation that it be substituted for that inclosed in this Department's letter of the 5th instant, above mentioned.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

JOHN D. LONG, *Secretary.*

Hon. EUGENE HALE,  
*Chairman Committee on Naval Affairs, United States Senate.*

